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REMARKS ON THE STUDY OF BOTANY.

FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER.

Among all the natural sciences with which we are acquainted, there is none so fascinating and delightful as that of botany. It unfolds to its votary a scene of enchantment and beauty which nothing can surpass, and which leads him through the apparent difficulties by which it is surrounded with a power so pleasing that every inclination to resist is banished, and every toil becomes a pleasure. It is in the vegetable world that nature seems to have displayed her nicest touch and most delicate coloring. The variety, magnificence and beauty of this portion of her works, it would be impossible to describe; and can only be relished by those whose taste and inclination lead them to the study of botany. To such, a source of almost unceasing delight is afforded, and that delight is increased in proportion as the mystery is unveiled; and the whole beauty of the vegetable kingdom, with all its rich, splendid and magnificent drapery, is laid open to his enraptured view:

—For who can paint

Like nature? Can imagination boast
Amid its gay creation, hues like hers?
Or can it mix them with that matchless skill,
And lose them in each other, as appears
In every bud that blows?

The science of botany, however, must be considered on a more enlarged scale than that which limits it to a mere exhibition of beauty. Connected with medicine, agriculture, and the arts, its importance cannot be too highly appreciated, or too attentively considered. It directs our search for those plants which are suitable to the soil we wish

to cultivate—it enables us to procure the most beautiful and interesting varieties, and to choose among the numerous tribes of vegetables that are spread over the surface of the earth, such as are the best adapted to our wants, and the most proper to decorate our dwellings, and to multiply our enjoyments. In religion and morals, this charming science has also its advantages. In contemplating the wonderful organization of plants, we cannot but admire the wisdom of that matchless being,

“Whose breath perfumes them, and whose pencil paints.”

And a conviction of that wisdom must necessarily inspire greater love and warmer devotion. Its moral influence is felt by begetting simple tastes and by infusing into the mind ideas of order, and into the soul mild, peaceful and benevolent sentiments.

Till the age of Linnaeus botany had not the character of a science. Nothing but confusion disorder and difficulty existed, where harmony and beauty have since been made to reign. The genius of a Gesner enabled him to make some small advances towards a system. Casalpin progressed still further, and Tournefort succeeded in producing one founded on the form of the Corolla. But the discovery of a sexual union in the vegetable world was reserved to Linnaeus, who has been denominated with peculiar propriety and justice the father of botany; and on this marriage of plants, he has erected a system, founded upon the number and combination of the sexual parts, which not only from its clearness, but also from its fine poetical character, excites that enthusiasm which is so remarkable in those who have devoted themselves to this branch of natural history. He has cast around this science a charm so captivating and resistless, that the apparent difficulties which arise from the first view of its formidable nomenclature, are disregarded or despised, and the delighted student marches forward with a pace steady and progressive; because his path is enamelled with flowers, which delight his vision with the variety and brilliancy of their tints, and regale his scent with the lusciousness of their odours.

I speak now of botany as a science, comprehending vegetable physiology, and a knowledge of the medicinal, esculent, and other use of plants; and not as a mere nomenclature system of words. My object in these remarks is to exhibit what I conceive

the best plan to be employed in the acquisition of this science. The system of Linnæus I have already mentioned; it is however due to the genius and perseverance of Bernard de Jussieu to state that the scheme which he has established, suggested however by Linnæus himself, has many eulogists and followers, who assert that he has rendered the science more easy and simple. It consists in exhibiting the natural relation which is found to exist among plants, and in uniting them into families, in which the presence of one character proves that of many others, while their analogy indicates similar qualities.

Thus the discoveries made by analysis are now confirmed by synthetis in such a manner that the individual who studies a few details may by examining a small number of vegetables of different families form a general idea of botany. The mere knowledge of the nomenclature of botany does not constitute a botanist. A man, says Rousseau, may be well acquainted with this beautiful science without knowing the name of a single vegetable. Yet the knowledge of the nomenclature will be, in some degree, necessary as an introduction—it may be soon acquired. A name is given to an object of sense; and though that name be foreign it will easily be recalled, whenever the same object is presented.

The best and most easy plan to be pursued, according to a French writer, in the acquisition of this science, after you have obtained a knowledge of the principles, is to accompany a person who is acquainted with plants, into the country; go with him into the fields, and groves, and gardens; collect from three to four hundred plants; examine and analyse them carefully, and preserve them in a herbarium. Read whatever has been written about them; examine them frequently; and their names, character, different organs, number of species, forms, soil, proportions and uses will be impressed upon the memory. After this has been effected, determine for yourself about 400 more according to the Linnæan method; you will then be qualified to comprehend the principles upon which the natural families are established, to ascertain the characters which unite the genera of which they are composed, and to estimate the importance of those characters. You are now ready to enter into a larger field. Gather plants, analyse them, compare those which are new to you with those with which you are already acquainted, describe them as you find them in complete fructification; in many this fructification will be similar; unite them into genera, in effacing from

your descriptions the common characters, which you write apart, and preserving the differences in order to distinguish the species. Compare then your labours with what has been done by skillful botanists, and never seek for the name till you have described the plant.

You must accustom yourself to recollect the synonomies, in order to consult in case of need, the authors that have spoken of the same species under different names.

In informing yourself of the experiments which have been made to discover the irritability of vegetables, the action which the light, the heat, the influence of the air, water, sun, the phenomena of germination and of nutrition exercise upon them, you must realise the most important of these experiments and endeavour to confirm the facts, or to discover new ones, by such other experiments as you may deem necessary. You can then study the history of plants the most celebrated for their beauty, their singularity, or the uses to which they may be applied. The study of Cryptogamous plants should not be neglected. The mosses present, by the elegance and regularity of their parts, by the irritability with which they are endowed, by the means which nature employs to preserve and reproduce the species; a chain of phenomena too curious and interesting to escape any ones attention. Two years will be sufficient to acquire such a knowledge of botany, as one disposed merely to know the cases and divisions, and to acquire exact notions of the principal phenomena of the vegetable kingdom, may require. With such a knowledge of botany as I have mentioned, this science will be found more an amusement than a labour, and every day will unfold new charms and new beauties to the young botanist that will lead him on from discovery to discovery, till the whole vegetable world lies before him in all its splendor, magnificence, singularity and elegance. G.

PROGRESS OF THE CAPITOL.

In a late view of the Capitol we were led to examine the state of the building, to enable us to give information to our distant correspondents and friends, of the progress of the work, and of the probability of its readiness for use in the next session of Congress. We were gratified in finding that the halls for the Senate and House of Representatives, situated in the wings, are in great forwardness; all the stone and plastering work is finished, as are the galleries and lobbies: the floors are

preparing, and will be laid, that of the Senate room, immediately, and that of the Representative hall, as soon as the work on the decoration of the ceiling will allow of the removal of the scaffolding. We shall not attempt an architectural description of these apartments at present, but only mention, that they appear commodious, and worthy of the National Legislature. The ceiling of the Senate Chamber, which has just been opened to view, exhibits a scene of great richness and beauty, in a correct taste. The centre buildings which is to connect the wings, has proceeded with great dispatch, when the extent and solidity of the work is considered. The basement story, to the west, is built and arched over, and the workmen are proceeding with the second story and the walls of the lower rotunda; these, we understand, will be raised to the level of the principal rooms, during the fall. Attention is paid to the accommodation of Congress, by erecting a building, now in progress, to communicate with the south wing, and to contain a number of committee rooms. This building was necessary from the deficiency of such rooms within the walls: it is slightly constructed, principally of materials which have been used for scaffolding, and is intended only as a temporary accommodation until the centre can be finished.

We hope, and are confident, that those who have the direction will not omit to effect such a regulation of the grounds as will make the approaches convenient, and show the building to advantage; the plantation of the belt within the railing of the square, rewards already the attention that has been paid to it, and promises to make these grounds in future an attractive place of resort. It is much to be wished that this example of planting trees, may be followed in the avenues and public squares; they would add beauty and freshness, and afford a shade to mitigate the warmth of our summer sun.

CHICASAW BOUNDARY.

NASHVILLE, July 24—*General James Winchester*, Commissioner on the part of the U. States, for running the above boundary, which is also the southern boundary of this State, arrived in this place on Wednesday last having performed the duty enjoined by government.

Through the politeness of gen. Winchester, we have obtained the following information, which will be highly gratifying to the public.

Gen. Winchester commenced running this line on the 9th ult. and completed it on the 4th inst. beginning where the line run by gen-

eral Coffee ended on the north bank of Tennessee; having ascertained the bearing of that line, and procured from gen. Coffee the instruments used by him, which were deemed important, as the line to be run by general Winchester was a continuation of the same line, in the 35th degree of latitude. Gen. W. previously had ascertained, that Mr. Ellicott's observations respecting the 35th degree of latitude on the east bank of the Mississippi were correct, and so considered in the Maps published by Ellicott and Melish.

Gen. Winchester for this purpose, descended the river to the Chickasaw Bluffs, early in the month of May: from whence he proceeded through the Chickasaw nation, to the Tennessee river, at the Western extremity of Coffee's line, on the river, about 35 miles by water, below Colbert's ferry, and about five miles above Bruton's ferry. He began the continuation of Coffee's line on the west bank of Tennessee.

In regard to running this line, we have been favored with a few remarks, which we publish for the gratification of public curiosity, on a subject of great importance, either in a national or individual point of view. They are as follow:

The line crosses White Oak Creek of Tennessee, 6 miles from the river; road from Reynoldsburgh to the Chickasaw nation, 15 miles, and 95 miles from Reynoldsburgh; north branch Hatcha, 20 m. the same, 27 miles; Main Hatcha, 30 m. 6 poles wide: south fork of the same 33 m. another fork of do. 36, do. 38; Wolf Main Branch 69 m. 5 poles wide, dry weather, about four feet deep, clear and remarkably cool; such fork of Wolf river 67 miles: road leading from Buzzard Roost near Colbert's ferry, to Chickasaw Bluff 69 m. from the Buzzard Roost to the Bluff supposed to be 110 m. Naunconor 72 m. continued leaving the main Naunconor to the north in running west, crossing four branches of it in 34 miles, completing 106 m. Cut Off, which connects the water of the Mississippi with Lake Horn, 108 miles; this is a sluice of the Mississippi which goes out of the Naunconor about 2 miles from its mouth, running 4 or 5 miles in the above named lake; Mississippi river 110 being the southwest corner of the State of Tennessee. The line strikes the river about half a mile below President Island, five miles west of the meridian of the mouth of Wolf river, and four miles 58 poles west of the meridian of Fork Pickering, on the Mississippi; is 7 miles due south of Fork Pickering.

The persevering industry and exertions of gen. Winchester, entitle him to the respectful consideration of his countrymen: having per-

formed with promptitude a work of uncommon labor, considering the warm season of the year, and with an accuracy satisfying the most sanguine expectations of the people of this State.

Wm.

SURVEY of VIRGINIA.

Mr. Wood having contracted with the state, to survey, and draw a map of the whole, and a chart of each county, wishes at the same time to prepare a sort of memoir upon the condition of each county. The plan is of course of greater breadth of detail, than the elegant and profound "*Notes on Virginia*." It seems rather to correspond in design with sir John Sinclair's Statistics of Scotland; varied, however, so as to suit the particular features of the American society, the past history of the aborigines, &c. It is impossible, while on this subject, to refrain the expression of a wish which we have long indulged; viz. to see a new edition of the "*Notes on Virginia*" from the hands of their illustrious author. So many changes have taken place since the date of the work, so many fields have been opened for pushing former discoveries, that a new edition is really a great desideratum to the literature of Virginia. Mr. Wood, without following the plain of this work will occasionally strike into the paths which it opens. But his plan is yet only in embryo. It will depend on others whether it will ever come to any thing. In the following circular he appeals to gentlemen of information and zeal in each county, to assist him in collecting materials for it. It was thus, we believe, that sir J. Sinclair got along and thus finally brought forth a useful work, which, alone and unaided, he never would have been able to have produced. The following are the heads to which Mr. W. invites attention:

Jos. WOOD, being at present engaged in making a survey of the counties in the state of Virginia respectfully solicits in formation from the gentlemen of the county of _____ in regard to the following particulars.

1. The tribe of Indians to which the aborigines of the county belonged.
2. The names of the first settlers and year of settlements.
3. The origin of the names of mountains, rivers, and creeks: If Indian names, an explanation of the terms.
4. Indian antiquities and natural phenomena.
5. Indian and popular tradition in relation to local events.
6. Local incidents of a remarkable nature, tending to illustrate the Indian, French, revolutionary and late wars.
7. The animal, birds, shellfish, insects, and reptiles.
8. The minerals; and vegetables.
9. The quality of soil, and the progress and present state of agriculture, with the value of land.
10. Wells and springs,

11. Climate; state of longevity and prevailing diseases of the county.
12. Population.
13. Peculiar manners and habits.
14. Literature and education.
15. The arts, commerce, and manufactures.
16. Religion; the various sects at present in the county, with the probable numbers attached to each.
17. Law and medicine.

MISCELLANY.

FROM FAYAL.

Extract of a letter from an American Gentleman at Fayal, dated 13th July.

The Russian Frigate *Kamschatka*, that has been nearly three years on a voyage of discovery, stopped here on her return home, and remained three weeks. The Commander, Goltowrin, is celebrated from the circumstances of his captivity several years in Japan, and his account of that country, now passing the rounds of the periodical publications. He with the principal officers and scientific gentlemen of this suite, were entertained by Mr. Osbney, the United States Consul, at the celebration of Independence, at his house, and all expressed the highest respect for our country and republican institutions. The dinner was succeeded by a Ball, attended by 120 ladies and gentlemen, highly gratifying to the Russian guests.

The landscape painter did the Consul the favor to sketch that part of the town and harbor where the attack on the Gen. Armstrong took place, which he has forwarded to Capt. Reid, who so gallantly defended that vessel.

It is understood that the want of such a drawing has retarded the execution of an engraving, representing that extraordinary action.

American Independence. The anniversary of our country's independence was celebrated on board the ship *Oglethorpe*, Capt. Jayne, in the harbor of Liverpool, England, on the 5th of July last. "On this occasion (says the *Mercury*) a spirit of philanthropy towards their struggling co-patriots of South America was generously blended with the conviviality of the celebration. Gen. D'Evereux, by whose active enthusiasm in the cause of liberty, nearly two thousand auxiliaries to the independent force have been embarked from this port during the last week, was among the guests, attended by Col. Lyster, Lieut. Col. Fredennic, Major Oglethorpe, and other officers of his staff. We like this union among the friends of freedom in both parts of the new world, and we hail it as a good omen."

It is stated in the London papers, that the Emperor of Morocco is about to take the field against an immense tribe of Arabs, who lately defeated and wounded one of his sons, and making one of his wives a prisoner.

The capital of the Wechabites has been demolished, the Chief beheaded, and his relations allowed to settle in Cairo.

If there is any truth in the following journal, a strange sort of morals prevail at New Orleans. A society that can tolerate the profanation of the Lord's day in the manner here described, are fit subjects for Bedlam. Let us hope the account is exaggerated; and yet, if it was not true, why should the editor of the New Orleans Chronicle lend his paper to disgrace his own city.

From the New-Orleans Chronicle, of July 20.

Mr. Lorrian!—I am in the habit of keeping a journal. Since I arrived in New-Orleans, it has, for the most part, been very tame. But the entry of last sabbath is somewhat amusing, and I have copied it for you. If you think it worthy your columns you are at liberty to insert it. X Y Z.

Sunday, 10th July, 1819.

"O Pater, O hominum Divinque æterna Potestas
Cernis ut insultant Ratu!" *Virg. Æn. Lib. X.*

10 o'clock, A. M.—No church to day. Episcopal too old; Presbyterian too new; the Cathedral is too holy a place for such a sinner as me to visit.

11 o'clock—Walked into the upper Faubourg; fine music, flutes, fiddles and songs in abundance. Ladies of color promenading; beautiful dresses; interesting impudence.

12 o'clock.—Returned to the city. French stores generally open; many Americans "follow suit," especially some from the "land of steady habits." Business brisk near the Levee; 2 negroes fighting, and 200 looking on.

5 o'clock.—After dinner walked out; saw 6 circus riders, elegantly mounted, displaying in the streets, every few steps one of them bellows like a Stentor. "By permission of the mayor!" Reminds me of John Randolph's "cuckoo" calling for the "previous question" in congress.

6 o'clock—A great flock of people going to see the balloon rise; interesting group; men with their wives; gentlemen who never had any; negroes of all shades and sizes; caudices, sailors, boatmen, ladies, black spirits and white, blue spirits and grey," &c.

7 o'clock.—Balloon ascends, a shout of triumph, sublime scene! spirits of Montgolfier, Garnerin and Miss Sadler, save the poor little lamb!! This must be an unusually solemn sabbath, for half the people in New-Orleans have their eyes to heaven.

8 o'clock—Splendid fire-works by permission of the mayor; many children present for improvement's sake; also, a vast number of the most respectable men in the city. Thought of gen. Washington's remark, that he wouldn't trust a man the length of his nose who would set an example of Sabbath-breaking.

9 o'clock.—Went home *via* the market; heard a band of music that is never still; "fine refreshments" in that neighborhood; also, "natural curiosities," also, "choice rooms" for "choice sets," where gambling is done on a genteel and honorable scale.

Remarks—New-Orleans must have an excellent Mayor; colored ladies must be most rigidly virtuous; the citizens must excel in the science of aeronautics; pyrotechny, music and mercantile business must flourish; children must be accustomed to the best examples; and the people must be uncommonly moral.

"Ætas parentum, pejor avis, tulit
Nos nequiora, mox daturus
Progenium vitiosorem." *Hor. Lib. 3, Carm. 6.*

STATE OF ENGLAND.

LONDON, June 18.—At a Common Council, holden in the Chamber of Guildhall of the City of London, on the 11th of June, 1819:—

Resolved, that this Court have learned, with the deepest regret, that, after four years of profound peace, at a moment of general distress, when the agricultural, manufacturing, and trading interest, are labouring under the greatest pressure, it has not only been found necessary to appropriate a considerable part of the Sinking Fund to the service of the year but that it is proposed to lay additional taxes, to the amount of three millions per annum upon articles, most of which are of necessary consumption, which must bear with a ruinous effect upon the middle and laboring classes of the community, already borne down by the most grievous burthens, and suffering the greatest privations, through the general stagnation of trade and depreciation in the value of property.

That this Court has, on various occasions, petitioned Parliament for an inquiry in the National Finances, and for the adoption of a rigid system of reformation and retrenchment in the public expenditure, which the circumstances of the country, after the unexampled sacrifices they have been called upon to make have appeared imperiously to require.

That it is with no less grief and astonishment that it has observed no effectual measures have been adopted to promote such objects, and that it should be proposed, when there appeared to be Two Millions of surplus Revenue, so unnecessarily, to add to their burthens, and consequently to increase their expences.

That this Court deem it their bounden duty to impress upon parliament the urgent necessity there exists for taking into its most serious consideration the unparalleled distress and privations of the People, large bodies of whom, unable to find employment are soliciting to be conveyed from their native soil, in order to seek labour and provide for their necessities in a Foreign Clime; That it would look at the immense amount of the Poor's Rates, and crowded state of the Prisons; the melancholy list of Bankrupts that daily appear; and that it would not only reject all propositions for laying additional burthens upon the People, but be pleased to institute an immediate and rigorous enquiry into every branch of the Public Expenditure, to abolish all useless places, pensions, and Appointments, and to adopt such a system of general reformation and economy as may remove the present embarrassments, and restore the Nation to a state of happiness and prosperity.

WOODTHORPE.

THE SEA SERPENT.

Copy of a letter from James Prince, esq. Marshall of this District to the hon Judge Davis near Nahant August 16. 1819.

Boston, Aug. 16.—*My Dear Sir*—I presume I may have seen what is generally thought to be the SEA SERPENT.—I have seen my name inserted in the evening newspapers printed at Boston on Saturday in a communication on this subject. For your gratification, and from a desire that my name may not sanction any thing beyond what was actually presented and passed in review before me, I will now state that, which, in the presence of more than two hundred other witnesses, took place near the long beach of Nahant on Saturday morning last:

Intending to pass two or three days with my family at Nahant, we left Boston early on Saturday morning. On passing the half way house on the Salem Turnpike, Mr. Smith informed us, the Sea Serpent had been seen the evening before at Nahant beach, and that a vast number of people from Lynn had gone to the beach that morning in hopes of being gratified with a sight of him; this was confirmed at the hotel. I was glad to find I had brought my famous mast head spy glass with me as it would enable me from its form and size to view him to advantage if I might be so fortunate as to see him. On our arrival on the beach, we associated with a considerable collection of persons on foot and in chaises; and very soon an animal of the fish kind made his appearance.

His head appeared about three feet out of water; I counted thirteen bunches on his back—my family thought there were fifteen—he passed three times at a moderate rate across the bay, but so fleet as to occasion a foam in the water—and my family and self, who were in a carriage, judged that he was from fifty and not more than sixty feet in length—whether, however, the wake might not add to the appearance of his length; or whether the undulation of the water or his peculiar manner of propelling himself might not cause the appearances of protuberances, I leave for your better judgement. The first view of the animal occasioned some agitation, and the novelty perhaps prevented that precise discrimination which afterwards took place—as he swam up the bay, we and the other spectators moved on and kept nearly abreast of him; he occasionally withdrew himself under water, and the idea occurred to me that his occasionally raising his head above the level of the water, was to take breath, as the time he kept under was on an average about eight minutes; and after being accustomed to view him, we be-

came more composed; and his general appearance was as above delineated. Mrs. Prince and the Coachman having better eyes than myself, were of great assistance to me in marking the progress of the animal; they would say he is now turning, and by the aid of my glass I saw him distinctly in this movement; he did not turn without occupying some space, & taking it into view the time and the space which he found necessary for his ease and accommodation, I adopted it as criterion to form some judgement of his length.—I had seven distinct views of him from the long beach so called, and at some of them the animal was not more than an hundred yards distance.

After being on the long beach with other spectators about an hour, the animal disappeared, and I proceeded on towards Nahant; but on passing the second beach I met Mr Jas. Magee, of Boston, with several ladies in a carriage, prompted by curiosity to endeavor to see the animal, and we were again gratified beyond even what we saw in the other bay; which I concluded he had left in consequence of the number of boats in the offing in pursuit of him—the noise of whose oars must have disturbed him as he appeared to us to be a harmless timid animal. We had here more than a dozen different views of him, and each similar to the other; one however so near, that the coachman exclaimed “O, see his glistening eye”—Thinking I might form some calculation of his length by the time and distance of each turn, and taking an angle with my two hands of the length which he exhibited, that is to say from his head to the last protuberance, and apply the same angle to other objects I feel satisfied of the correctness of my decision that he is sixty feet long; unless the ripple of his wake deceived me—nor, my dear sir, do I undertake to say he was of the Snake or Eel kind—though this was the general impression of my family, the spectators and myself. Certain it is he is a very strange animal. I have been accustomed to see Whales, Sharks, Grampuses, Porpoises, and other large fishes, but he partook of none of the appearances of either of these:—The Whale and the Grampus would have spouted—the shark never raises his head out of the water, and the Porpoise skips and plays; neither have such appearances on their backs, or such a head as this animal. The Shark it is true has a fin on his back, and often the fluke of his tail is out of the water; but these appendages would not display the form, and certainly not the number of protuberances, which this animal exhibited; nor is the habit of the Shark to avoid a boat. The water was extremely smooth, and the weather clear; we had been so habituated to see him, that we were cool and composed. The time

occupied was from a quarter past 8 to half 11: a crowd of witnesses exceeding two hundred, brought together for a single purpose, were all alike satisfied and united as to appearances and of the length and size of the animal; but you must deduct the influence which his passage through the water and the manner he propelled himself might have as to the apparent protuberances on his back, and the ripple occasioned by his motion on his real length, of all which you can judge equally well and better than myself. I must conclude there is a strange animal on our coast—and I have thought, an unvarnished statement might be gratifying to a mind attached to the pursuit of natural science and aid in the inquires or a controverted question, which I know to have interested you. I have ventured on the description, being also induced to hope, that if any thing of the marvellous is stated as coming from me, you will correct it.

Accept the respects and attention of, dear sir, yours sincerely,
J. PRINCE.
Hon. JUDGE DAVIS. Nalant, Aug. 16. 1819.

To British Emigrants arriving in the Eastern States.

English Prairie, Illinois, July 13th, 1819.

My Friends and Countrymen—For your service, I exhibited in two publications, an outline of the process of emigration from its commencement up to the final settlement. My first opinion of this, the spot of our choice, and the reasoning on which that choice was grounded, are before you; and sufficient time has elapsed to try those opinions by the test of experience; by which they are confirmed in every particular. I shewed you my own tract through the gloomy forest into a delightful country, better prepared for our abode by the hand of nature than the heavy woods by half a century of labour.

I built a cabin, "and blazed a road" to it: for it was my ambition to be surrounded by my old friends and neighbours. In this too, I am gratified; and we are contented with our allotment, both as to our present state and future prospects. This small district, which, two years ago, was nearly without inhabitants, contains a thriving population of from six to seven hundred persons. We have been blessed with health most unusual for a new settlement, or for any settlement of equal numbers in any country; and no doubt is entertained by us or by any judicious observer of its salubrity.

We have several wells of excellent water and many more are in progress. Our soil is fertile beyond my own expectation; but our exertions have hitherto been chiefly directed to the permanent objects of building and fencing; of which much has already been done.

We have, however, collected a stock of cattle and hogs, and I think more acres of corn are now growing than there are individuals in the settlement.

I have been informed that the active pen of Mr. Cobbett has been borrowed by certain land speculators to direct your course from the western country to a settlement in the backwoods of Pennsylvania.

on the Susquehanna, 170 miles N. W. of Philadelphia. I have not yet been so fortunate as to meet with the publication. Report says that he holds me out as a man of inferior judgment; and has descended so far as to throw a doubt over my veracity. The letter I can hardly credit, but however that may be, the question, both as regards my judgment and veracity, in this instance, is decided, and in my favor, on the incontrovertible evidence of fact.

The Susquehanna, may, for ought I know, be quite eligible to you; but unfair means taken by the promoters of any undertaking, to depress a competitor, shakes and ought to destroy all confidence in their honor and truth. I have just received a publication on this subject by a Dr. Johnson, who, by misapplication of partial extracts and dishonest comments, has labored to shew that this country is not such a country as I have stated it to be, but that I have chosen a bad situation, and described it as a good one; this gives me a mean opinion of Dr. Johnson. But it is the interest of these speculators to fix you on their lands, and their proposals may be worthy your attention; therefore as the distance is comparatively small from the eastern ports, I advise you to examine the thing for yourselves or at least to obtain an account of it through honest hands. If you are poor I would recommend you to find out some of the Susquehanna proprietors who may possibly undertake to pay the charges of a journey thither, should you find Dr. Johnson's favorable report prove as false as I know his unfavorable to be.

I hear of advertisements in the daily papers inviting settlers, but why do annual thousands of New-York and Pennsylvania farmers pass these eligible settlements at their own doors, and make their way into the west, even as far as this place? I feel no anxiety as to the peopling of this neighborhood; our prosperity is out of the reach of Mr. Cobbett or Dr. Johnson; but I think it right to offer these hints to your attention.

It would be well for you to inform yourselves what the "Emigrant Society" consists of, which possesses so much good will towards you. The preface to Dr. Johnson's book is called an address to you from this society, but it is not authenticated either by signature or date.

It is probable that the owners of the lands in question are "The Emigrant Society," if so, you will understand the whole affair.

M. Birkbeck.

USE OF FLANNEL.

The use of flannel for the inner garment has become general, and wherein it promotes invisible perspiration, guards the body from the intense cold of our winters, and protects it from heavy, damp or easterly weather, in any season. So far, it is undoubtedly salutary, but wherein it also procures during our hot dry summers, profuse sweating, and shuts out from the body that light, elastic, invigorating atmosphere, which mostly prevails at this season, it becomes extremely debilitating and pernicious to health. It is true that, generally this is the last garment to get washed; a person who has three clean shirts a week, has but one clean flannel; hence the perspirable matter is absorbed and re-absorbed in a continued round of poison to the health.

SPANISH AFFAIRS.

The following article was evidently written by a person conversant in the transactions; we should not be surprised, if, it was written under the direction of *Don Onís* himself, or his scribe, a priest called *Narónha*.

"Advices from Madrid of the 10th inst. are in town, transmitted from a quarter of the first political information, and they distinctly state that the treaty made with the United States for the transfer of the two *Floridas*, had not been ratified by his catholic majesty, further adding that there was not the least probability for the present, of it receiving the royal sanction. On this curious and important matter great demurs have recently taken place, and it has been deemed singular that the Spanish negociator of the treaty (now in London) should have quitted the seat of the federal government before the finish had been put to his work. The whole transaction has been an extremely boisterous and complicated one—but since the first arrangements were made great obstacles have occurred. On the one hand, it is thought Spain has been told, that if she cedes the *Floridas* to the U. S. she must cede Cuba to G. Britain; it is also rumored that the U. S. find encumbrances of grants of territory which were not anticipated. In the whole negotiation a great degree of finesse has been used, but time will shew which party has been the dupe! Ferdinand's government is well aware how much the United States covet the *Floridas*, and he will, if he can, impose conditions beyond those of neutrality. Spain failed in her negociations at the congress to rouse Europe against South America; she will now endeavour to sell, under the best bargains, part of her western empire, in order not to lose the whole, and shall be eventually to find, that the foreign enlistment bill is not one of the branches of her crooked policy. Of this, however she may be certain, that if on such an exhibition of the affair as the president will feel himself compelled to make to congress, it should appear that any undue influence has been used to withhold the ratification, the popular cry will be to take the *Floridas* by force, for immense sums have already been laid out by individuals in land speculations, and great preparations made for settling there."

The Constitutionnel contains a letter from Madrid, under date of the 19th June, in which we find the following paragraph.

"Shall we retain possession of the *Havanna*? Have we ceded, sold, or suffered to be taken, the *Floridas*? These are the great objects of enquiry with our politicians. The

succession of the Spanish monarchy, in the beginning of the last century, kindled a general war throughout Europe. May the desire of these times, to divide our transmarine possessions, not renew the same calamities. The war of the Succession lost Gibraltar to Spain; and it is whispered now, that England wishes to have another fort upon our territory in her possession. Suppose she should think of *Santon* in the province of Biscay? The idea is not new. In that case, the English will have a footing in the North, similar to what they have in the South, and then it would no longer be with France that we should carry on a contraband trade. Let us hope that Spain, who knows how to rouse herself upon proper occasions, will feel the danger of these concessions, of which the bare supposition even is a real result."

A Spanish frigate, called the *Bronte*, formerly a Russian frigate, after having boarded the British schooner *Brunswick*, on her way from Liverpool to Genoa, and ascertained her character, bore up and ran directly on board of her. The anchor caught in the gunwale, and while in that situation, she fired a gun in the wake of the fore rigging of the schr. which killed Mr. Walker, a passenger, and wounded two others. The only excuse for such wanton conduct, was, that a Patriot brig had taken a Spanish frigate with half a million of dollars on board, and they suspect the schr. to be a cruiser of the same character.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

On the 29th of May last, a suit was brought in the Court of King's Bench, London, to recover damages for an injury sustained in consequence of the overturning of one of the mail coaches. The plaintiff was a widow lady, by the name of Hewitt. She took an inside seat in the coach; with five others, and there were sixteen outside passengers. On the road from London to Eaton, the driver came up with the new opposition coach, and in attempting to pass by it was overturned. All the passengers were injured more or less, but none so badly hurt as Mrs. Hewitt. She had her right wrist broken, her elbow dislocated, and her forehead cut to the bone. It was plead in mitigation of damages, by the proprietors of the coach, that the overturning was purely accidental, and not imputable to any negligence of the coachman. But the Lord Chief Justice, in his charge to the jury, told them, that the defendants were clearly liable, because the coach had been overloaded with luggage and passengers far beyond what the law allowed, and that the plaintiff was entitled to da-

mages. The jury, after a few moment's consultation, found for the plaintiff, damages—£300 sterling, which is one thousand three hundred and thirty-three cents.

In one of our late London papers, we perceive that Sir Francis Burdett has been cast in no less than six suits, brought against him in the Court of King's Bench, for damages done by the mob which paraded the streets of London at the close of the late Westminster election. The actions were sustained under a law of Great Britain, which makes the inhabitants of the county liable for any outrages committed by a riotous assemblage of its citizens.

The Court of Paris has decided, that a child born 9 months and 9 days after the death of its father, lawfully succeeds him.

Extract from the evidence of Alexander Baring, Esq. before the secret committee of the House of Commons, appointed to consider of the state of the Bank, and of the expediency of a resumption of cash payments, (given on the 25th March, 1819.)

Supposing peace to be maintained in India, and the overtrading to that part of the world both from this country and the United States, to be checked, as it naturally will be by the ordinary consequence of overtrading, do you not think that there is more probability that in the next two or three years bullion may be imported from Asia to Europe than that it should continue to be sent from Europe to Asia, especially if the supply of Europe from the mines of South America should continue on a diminished scale? I should certainly think that less bullion will go from Europe to Asia; perhaps none at all may go; or it is even possible that a small balance may be brought from thence, but I should think the latter case not very probable. An article which has lately come in great abundance from India, Cotton will probably not come as all since the Cotton of America is reduced to its present rates.

SLAVERY IN THE WEST.

Wilmington, Aug. 21.—A newspaper, well printed and conducted, has been recently established at Edwardsville, in Illinois, by Mr. Hooper Warren, who formerly resided temporarily in this borough. One of the distinguishing features of this paper is its decided and energetic opposition to slavery, which it maintains in a very spirited and manly style against considerable opposition. This course has brought it into collision with the St. Louis paper; the spirit of which, and of too many of its patrons, we are sorry to observe, is bitter and illiberal in the extreme. In their toasts and writings they condemn the opposers of slavery in congress, in the most into-

lerant style; as if it were a crime to express or conceive an opinion contrary to their interested views; and as if the habit of domestic despotism made them forget, that others had rights and interests to be protected as well as themselves. We are extremely sorry to see such a licentious temper in the people of that territory; and if it prevails with the majority, its admission into the union is not much to be coveted.

Whatever may follow from this collision of interests and principles between one section of the country and another (and we anticipate consequences of no very pleasant nature) we would in the mean time assure the Missouri writers and toasters, that they can gain nothing for their cause by the indulgence of an ungentelemanly temper on the subject.

Melancholy catastrophe.—The extraordinary fete which was some time announced at Paris, took place on the 5th of July, and has been signalized by a frightful catastrophe.—Among the numerous entertainments which had been promised to the public, was the ascent of Madame Blanchard in a luminous balloon ornamented with artificial fireworks.—Accordingly at half past ten o'clock, this enterprising aeronaut, dressed in white, having also a white hat with feathers entered the boat.—The signal being given, the balloon rose gently, but by throwing out ballast Madame Blanchard caused it to ascend more rapidly.—The Bengal firepots illuminated this brilliant ascent. The aeronaut waved her flag, and the air resounded with acclamations. Suddenly the balloon entered a light cloud which completely extinguished the firepots. Madame Blanchard then ignited the artificial fireworks, which produced the effect expected, when some of the flying fuses were seen to direct themselves perpendicularly towards the balloon, and the fire communicated with its base. A frightful brilliancy instantly struck terror into all the spectators, leaving no doubt of the deplorable fate of the aeronaut.

It is impossible to paint what passed at this moment at Tivoli. Cries of agony burst forth in every direction; a great number of females suffered violent nervous attacks; and consternation was painted upon the countenances of every one.

The result was that Madame Blanchard fell from the Balloon, and was dashed to pieces: her remains were picked up in rue de Provence.

The suicides in Paris, in January, February, March and April, amount to 124: 41 more than last year.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
GREAT BRITAIN.

LONDON, July 7.—The revenue quarter and the revenue year, which closed yesterday present more favorable results than even our sanguine expectations and predictions had anticipated. It is therefore, with heartfelt pleasure that we submit to our readers an excess comparee with the corresponding quarter of 1818, amounting to 422,893 pounds!

The comparison of the year ended the 5th July, 1819, with the year ended the 5th July, 1818 is equally gratifying.

The total revenue of those period is as follows:—

Total revenue under every head, ending July 5, 1818	148,033,544
Total revenue under every head, ending July 5, 1819.	149,351,380

Excess of year ending July 5, 1819. 11,327,736

Total revenue, exclusive of arrears of property tax and unappropriated war duties for the year ending July 5, 1818. 46,806,560

Total revenue, exclusive of arrears of property tax and unappropriated war duties for the year ending July 5, 1819. 49,071,923

Excess of total revenue, exclusive of arrears, &c. of the year ending July 5, 1818 12,285,763

LONDON, July 9.—Intelligence from Petersburg of the 12th ult. confirms the accounts, by the French papers, from the Camp of Scania, relative to the formation of three camps in Finland, and adds, that the works of Riga are to be increased.

Sir Francis Burdett brought forward the subject of parliamentary reform, in the house of commons, July 1, by a motion that the house should resolve to take into consideration the state of the representation, early in the next session. After debate, the motion was negatived: yeas 58, nays 153; majority 95.

The royal assent was given to the foreign enlistment bill July 3.

Seditious meetings continue to be held by the laboring class of the people of Great Britain, in almost all the manufacturing towns. At one of them the memory of Thomas Paine was drank, and the red cap of liberty hoisted. Several extensive failures had taken place at Manchester and Glasgow, and the following private banking institutions had stopped payment:—Messrs Warren, Pope, of Bristol; Messrs. Fisher & Co. of Cheltenham; Messrs. Fisher and Co. of Winchcombe.

The expedition under Gen. Devereux, 3000 strong, destined to aid the South American Patriots, sailed from Liverpool on, or about, the 13th of July.

LONDON, June 23.—Whilst the 7th Hussars lately

passed by the Marquis of Anglesea's seat near Litchfield, on their route to Manchester, they were entertained by the Marquis at his mansion with good old English cheer. Whilst the soldiers were parading on the lawn in front of the house, immediately before their departure; a somewhat singular appearance presented itself in the persons of the Marquis, his brother (a Captain in the Navy,) Lord Uxbridge, (the Marquis's son,) and the daughter of the Marquis. The first wanted a leg which he lost at Waterloo, the Captain an arm, the noble Lord Uxbridge was on crutches, being wounded in the knee, and the fair lady was *minus* her right hand which she lost while attending her husband at one of the battles in Spain.

LONDON, June 30.—Mr. Phillips, formerly of the Drury-lane and Dublin Theatres, arrived in town on Monday, after a professional visit to the United States of America, attended with extraordinary eclat and success.

The Printing Office of T. Bensley & Son, in Bol-Court, Fleet-street, London, that was so justly celebrated for the numerous beautiful specimens of accurate and well executed printing, lately took fire and was destroyed.

The last European war in which England was engaged, is calculated to have cost her two thousand and forty millions, equal, at five pound per ounce, to eleven thousand four hundred tons of gold.

A ridiculous article is published in the English papers from the continent. It is said that there is a moving mountain half a league from Namur, which caused considerable alarm to the good people of that vicinity!

It appears from a late London paper that a cargo of timber had arrived in England from Sierra Leone. It is said to be of an excellent quality, some of the logs weighing from 3 to 5 tons each. It is the first cargo of the kind ever brought from Africa to England.

GEN. BOYD. The British House of Commons passed a resolution on the 28th June, to allow Gen. Boyd, a native of the United States, £6000 sterling, in the British army in India, at an early period of life, when the affairs of that nation in that quarter were in a very critical state. Mr. Wilberforce, who brought forward the resolution, stated that it was very desirable to show the inhabitants of the United States, by the proceedings of the British House of Commons, that they did not consider them with any unfriendly feeling, or entertain towards them any prejudices incompatible with the full performance of justice.

FRANCE.

It is asserted in a Paris article, that an envoy from President Boyer has arrived in Paris, with propositions for a treaty, by which the dispossessed colonists of the republican part of St. Domingo shall recover the value of their property, by instalments, in about

twenty years. King Henry is less disposed to make any arrangement. The session of the French legislative chambers was to close July 24.

SPAIN.

CADIZ, June 15.—All is in motion here to embark on board the transports artillery, provisions, and ammunition of all kinds; a complete printing press is also prepared for the expedition; within these few days 20 more transports have arrived in this port, of which ten came from France; they are perfectly equipped. The troops composing the army are daily exercised in military evolutions.—Count d'Abisbal causes the most strict discipline to be observed, on which account he is more feared than loved by the army. It is not yet possible to say when it will sail for its destination; if we might judge by the arrangements which we witness, the epoch is not far distant. Meantime we have several insurgent privateers in sight, which brave us make prizes in the Strait, and seem to divide our preparations.—This is our situation.

The king of Spain has honored his excellency Hyde de Neuville, French Minister in the United States, from France, with the Grand Cross of St. Isabelle, with the title, for life, of "His Excellency."

The letters announcing this event, were handed to his excellency on Thursday last by Don Thomas Stoughton, Spanish Consul at New York.

A letter from Madrid, dated on the 15th of June, thus announces the abrupt dismissal of the Marquis de Cazo Yrujo:

"The Marquis de Cazo Yrujo was roused from his bed in the night of the 12th to the 13th inst. by an order of exile which banishes him to Avila; he had transacted business the previous evening with the King, without discovering the least prenotification of the storm which has just burst upon him: he quitted the capital before day-light."

The above affords a shocking proof of the dissimulation and treachery of the "adored" Ferdinand, and of the depravity of his courtiers, who can work the ruin of a prime minister with as much sang froid as if engaged at a game of chess, or in shuffling a pack of cards.

ITALY.

A letter from Leghorn states, that a revolution had taken place at Tunis; the Bey and all his family having been massacred, and a new Bey set up by the Algerines, who had obtained the ascendancy.

GERMANY.

On the 4th of May a fire broke out in the town of Bath, in Hungary, the property of Prince Esterhazy, which consumed 107 houses 20 barns, 14 grape cellars. The next

day the fire burst forth again, and consumed 55 houses more, and a Catholic Church.

PRUSSIA.

It is said that much distress prevails among the people employed in the linen manufactories in Prussia, and that the King has appropriated for their relief the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

DENMARK.

News from Copenhagen, of the 22d ult. announces, that the generally prevailing stagnation of trade is now felt in that city.

EAST INDIES.

A letter from Colombo, says—"Upwards of 800 men and more than 30 officers fell victims to the climate, during our late war with the Kandians.—Many men lost their lives from the bites of leeches, which swarm in the jungles; 25 men of the 18th Madras regiment have lost a leg each from the bite of this disagreeable and troublesome little animal, which, in spite of every precaution, will make its way into your boots, or under your clothes, whilst marching during the night."

TURKEY.

CONSTANTINOPLE, June 1.—Sir R. Liston, British ambassador to the Porte has just concluded an important Treaty, after three years negotiation, by which the Divan recognizes the arrangements concluded by the four Allied Powers, respecting the Ionian Islands. However, it appears not yet to have resolved upon giving its formal concurrence to the Treaty of the 5th of Nov. 1815, which will satisfy England only by halves. The new Treaty replaces the fortress of Parga and its dependencies under the dominion of the Sultan, who, on his side, recognizes the inhabitants of the Ionian Islands as under the protection of Great Britain. This Treaty was signed on the 24th April, and it is therefore supposed that Parga will be very shortly delivered up to the Turkish authorities.

Revolt in Turkey.—By late French papers it appears that the Pacha of Turcomania, between the Black Sea and the Caspian, had revolted from the authority of the Porte, and the troops of seven of the neighboring pachalicks had been sent against him.

THE MEDITERRANEAN.

Extract of a letter from an officer in the Mediterranean, to his friend in New York dated the 8th of July, 1819.

"Bourne and Stockton have settled all their affairs with the English officers with credit and without bloodshed—but amongst our officers there is much more serious business.—The Commodore ordered a Court Martial some time ago, and after their decision the record was sent to the Commander in Chief; but, for some informality or error, the Commodore thought proper to annul the proceedings, and gave them; what they thought, a reprimand. The Court not considering the annulling the proceedings as dissolving them,

came back in reply to the Commander in Chief, doubting his authority to reprimand them, &c. all in a style that gave the Commodore great offence, so much so, that he has suspended the whole of the Court; and, I understand, intends sending them home under arrest. The Court consisted of Capt. Macdonough, as President; Captains Ballard, Nicholson, Gallagher, and Page, members."

WEST INDIES.

KINGSTON, (Jam) June 23. Though the report, that Spain has ceded Cuba to Great Britain is premature, we know, on good authority, that the British Ministry have made a proposition on the subject, and offered to Spain, as an equivalent, the settlements of Trinidad, Demerara and Essequibo;—and, at the same time, that they will use their best offices to restore order and tranquillity in the Spanish provinces. It is obviously the policy of Great Britain to obtain possession of Cuba, in consequence of the cession of the Floridas to the United States: Perhaps she is the only power that extensive and valuable Island, be an efficient check upon that ambitious nation's designs on the Spanish territories adjacent thereto.

SOUTH AMERICA.

Substance of the translations in the Aurora of the 24th inst. detailing the movements of Gen. Bolivar's army in the interior of Venezuela and on the frontiers of New Grenada.

A despatch dated at Head Quarters, Achaguas on the 26th of May last, informs us of the pursuit of Morillo's army towards the province of Barinas, by the patriots, that captured many prisoners from the royalists; who are said to suffer much from sickness and desertion. Bolivar is confident he can destroy any force that comes in contact with him.

Despatches from the patriot Gen. St. Ander announce many important advantages gained, and that he had been joined by 300 of the royal Venezuelan militia, on their retreat. A convoy of stores fell into the hands of the Patriots, that greatly distressed the enemy.

Gen. St. Ander's despatch, dated at La Palma, on the 29th of April, states that he offered the enemy battle, but it was avoided by taking to the woods; all this brave officer could then do was to harass them at every point, which he successfully performed, finally driving them from the plains. Two ounces of meat per day was the largest ration the royalists could distribute, such was their distress in consequence of the operations on their rear and flank by the patriots. By these movements Casanare was liberated, and most of the young men, enthusiastically fond of liberty, joined the independent standard. This communication emphatically observes that the royalists are not masters of more ground than is occupied by the feet of their soldiers.

An official communication of the 5th of May from the governor of Casanare informs of the surprise and capture of the post of Salina, by the patriot Commandant Obando, without the escape of a single person, together with all the provisions, arms, and military stores.

Private letters also state that the royalists were

flying in the direction of Tunja, closely pursued by Gen. St. Ander.

The Courier of the Oronoko, just received, gives very circumstantial details of the operations of Gen. Bolivar and Gen. St. Ander, commanding in Casanare, from May down to very late. It was generally believed that Gen. Bolivar, by moving to the westward, had contemplated passing into the centre of New Grenada, and dislodging the royal agents. By these advices it would seem that this rumour was a *russe de guerre*, and that instead of taking that direction, he had formed a plan of co-operation with Gen. St. Ander, who commanded the republican force in Casanare. The movements of Bolivar very soon produced an alarm in the royal camp, and Morillo abandoned the position which he had taken in the early part of the year with so much boasting, on the Achagua. As soon as Bolivar had opened his communications with St. Ander, the latter operated on the royal force then at Pore, with so much success, as to compel the royal general to retire upon the mountains which skirt Tunja; and in the precipitancy of his retreat, left behind him about 400 Venezuelans with their equipments, who joined the republican standard.

The details of those movements are very interesting. St. Ander selecting a favorable position, sought to discover the disposition of the enemy for a decisive battle, and in the overtone made several prisoners: the royal general retired into the fastnesses of the forests; and St. Ander seized upon the occasion to detach a column of infantry to occupy a position which the royalists must pass, and cut off his convoy. It appears that in this enterprize, St. Ander completely succeeded, and the royal army was driven to great extremity.

A position or pass of the mountains was taken, with its garrison, and the three European officers in command. St. Ander had determined to keep up an incessant harassing war, and give the royalists not an hour's rest; the royalists retired with great dexterity, though under the greatest disadvantages, and particularly from desertions and the want of subsistence. St. Ander acknowledges that it was in his power to bring the royalists to action on one occasion, but the policy of the campaign had been previously determined to risk nothing; and that a guerrilla war was that best adapted to the circumstances. When those advices came away, Bolivar was still in pursuit of Morillo.

There is a correspondence with Gen. St. Ander, which shews the affairs in Casanare and New Grenada generally, as most flattering. In every village through which the royal

troops marched, they found it abandoned by the population of all ages; and wherever the republican armies appeared, they were joined by the whole male population.

A corps of the republican army was marching upon Sogomoso, within a few days march of Santa Fe de Bagota.

In the formation of a constitution for Venezuela, it seems, the principle recommended by John Adams has been adopted, of a *senate for life*: some spirited protests have been entered against this aristocracy, and it is very certain that this principle will not be suffered to remain. We have a great deal to say, on a suitable occasion, in relation to those alarming attempts upon the equal rights of mankind; and the attempt in so early a stage of a revolution to violate the principle of election and responsibility. It appears to be the fate of human efforts to establish liberty, to be crossed by the ambition, or the jealousy, or the envy of men, who owe every thing to the cause which they betray—Venezuela has suffered like Buenos Ayres, through the perfidy of a selfish ambition.—We should long since have made these matters a subject of discussion, but fully persuaded of the ultimate triumph of liberty over all factions and traitors, we did not like to appear among those pretended friends of liberty, who have stigmatized the oldest men of South America, as freebooters, and pirates, and brigands.

MEXICO.

The road from New Orleans to Mexico is said to be only 1200 miles long, and not presenting any more obstacles than are generally met with in passing from the Atlantic to the western states. We think it cannot be long, from the present aspect of affairs in Mexico, before a free intercourse between the two countries will be established. Though Mexico appears to have been the least successful in her efforts for independence, yet, if events do not deceive us, and a cession of Cuba be granted to Great Britain, it is impossible to foresee the effects of such an arrangement on a colony that has always been in the leading strings of the authorities of that island. These two valuable colonies have always been very productive to Spain.

HOME AFFAIRS.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Malignant disease in Boston.—By the report of the Boston Board of Health, it appears that seven persons died in that town with malignant disease during the week ending on Friday last; and that six others died with the same disease during the next succeeding 24 hours.

The Portland Argus of Tuesday last, states the majority in favor of separation, as far as received, at 10,128, and supposes this will be about the final result.

NEW YORK.

Poughkeepsie, Aug. 18.—The Cadets from West Point, to the number of 230, under the command of Major Bell, left that place in the afternoon of the 10th inst. they arrived in this village on Friday last, about noon, and immediately encamped. They were met a short distance from this place by a detachment of the Fusileer company commanded by Capt. Valentine, together with a number of citizens and escorted into town. They are a body of fine looking young men, in whom are centered the "Best hopes of the nation," and have attained a height in military science that reflects credit upon the institution in which they are educated. On Saturday they marched through our streets, and returned to the field of encampment, where they performed a variety of military evolutions, which joined with the excellent music of their band, gave great satisfaction to the numerous spectators. Their manœuvres exhibited great attention to discipline and duty, were highly honorable to themselves, and promised future usefulness to their country. They are obliged to submit to all the fatigues of a soldier's life, in marching, standing guard, and performing the duties of the camp. The urbanity and general deportment of the cadets were conclusive that the blandishments of the citizen are not lost by their being united with the sterner qualities of the soldier. The unpleasant weather of Monday deprived the spectators of witnessing a further display of military tactics. On Monday evening a ball was given to the Cadets, at L. B. Van Kleeck's Hall, by the citizens of this village—which for numbers, beauty and fashion was never excelled in this place.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Pittsburgh, Aug. 13.—The depredations now committing by the Grass-hoppers in some parts of the country, are truly singular and alarming. Many farmers have commenced cutting their oats perfectly green, and many meadows are shaved completely smooth.—Fortunately they do not fly high enough to obscure the sun as the Locusts sometimes do in Africa, in other respects however, they are nearly as bad. An instance or two has occurred, where a hat which was accidentally left in the field, was entirely destroyed before morning.

MARYLAND.

Hagerstown, (Md.) Aug. 24.—An extensive MARBLE QUARRY has been discovered on the land of Mr. Bleacher, in the neighborhood of Boonsborough, in this county. The marble is said to be of a superior quality.

Nine criminals escaped early on Monday morning from the Penitentiary in Baltimore, one of whom was immediately afterwards arrested by some of the city watchmen, near the Unitarian church—the other eight are advertised.

OHIO.

Counterfeit dollars and half dollars are in circulation in Ohio, supposed to have been coined somewhere in that state.

MISSOURI.

St. Louis, July 28. The Mississippi river continues to fall. We may conclude that it has begun to subside for the season. The Missouri falls also. They have lost about three feet; but are yet deep enough for vessels of a thousand tons. The Ohio we understand is quite low, and is lined with steam boats, either aground, or lying by for want of water.

Military expedition to the Upper Missouri.—The foremost of the steam boats, the expedition, with all the keel boats were within twelve miles of Boon's lick on Tuesday 20th inst.—The two steam boats, Johnson and Jefferson were at Berger Bottom (33 miles up the river) on Friday the 23d inst.

POLITICAL.

The *Edinburg Review*, for March 1819, treating on Larrey's Surgical Campaigns, under Buonaparte, contains many very extraordinary and interesting details, of the memorable Russian Campaign, which closed the career, of Buonaparte, in northern Europe.—His picture of the burning of Moscow is perhaps the most striking and awful incident of the whole.

"The streets of Moscow were deserted, and the city was soon found to be on fire in several distant quarters, where none of the French had yet appeared. The flames advanced on every side with dreadful rapidity; and the Russians were continually active in assisting their progress. One of these incendiaries even made his way into the palace occupied by gen. Grouchy, and with a lighted torch attempted to set fire to the bed curtains when he was seized by the General's son, (on whose authority the author mentions the fact) and given up to the patrol to be put to death. It would be difficult, under any circumstances, to witness a more horrid spectacle, than that which was now before us. During the night especially on the 18th September, when the flames were at their height, the scene was most astonishing: the weather was fine and dry, and the wind which was extremely violent, between north and east. During this night, the image of which will never be effaced from my recollection, the whole city was on fire; thick jets of flame, of various colours; shot up on every side to the very clouds, and cast around a scorching heat and brilliant illumination. The jets, prolonged by the violence of the winds were accompanied with

a horrid hissing, and with continual explosions of the various combustibles with which the houses and shops were filled. Fear and amazement occupied every heart. The guards the staff, and the chief of the army, left the Kremlin, and the city; and formed an encampment at Petroski, on the road to Petersburg."

The miseries of such of the inhabitants as ventured to remain, 'driven by the progress of the fire from house to house,' were horrible. 'The soldier, tormented by hunger and thirst braved every danger, to rescue, from the cellars and the burning shops, provisions, wines and various articles of plunder, and dispersed themselves pell mell among the inhabitants, seizing upon every thing they could rescue from the flames.

"The troops, indulged in every kind of excess; the discipline of the army was completely at an end; and 'Moscow,' the author says, 'became, for our army, another Capua.' When, the retreat began, the French were loaded, horses, carriages, and men, with plunder of every description:—the army of Darius departing from Babylon, did not exhibit a more curious spectacle."

The following is the concluding paragraph of a long article in the *Edinburgh Scotsman*, on the manner in which this country is spoken of by the Quarterly Reviewers:

"The short career of the United States has thrown more light on the theory of Government, than the experience of centuries. But the truth it exhibits are gall and wormwood to the hirelings of power. Without it we might have believed that rotten boroughs are the soundest part of a Constitution, and that a fair and full representation was visionary nonsense.—Delolme's doctrine might have passed, that it is only the strong executive of a monarchy which can indulge its subjects in great liberties of speech and conduct, while a republic is necessarily suspicious and severe; and that in a democracy the people must be the prey of quacks, under whom neither person nor property could be secure. To the confusion of all these theorists, however, persons and property are more secure in the United States, than any where else, if we may judge from the rate at which both multiply. The interests of the people are found to thrive wonderfully under their own care; and political quacks find so little encouragement there, that they are almost the only class which never emigrate from this happy country. The Government, so far from being jealous and cruel, is the mild-

est and most liberal that ever existed in the world. It creates no fictitious plots, nourishes no host of spies, or mercenary reviewers, and has contrived to get through a stormy period without the legitimate help of the gibbet, so indispensable to the strong monarchies of the old world.

NATIONAL FINANCE.

From the Charleston Patriot.

Treasury Notes. The wildest theories and most chimerical projects are afloat at the present period of pecuniary distress and embarrassment. The remedies proposed for our ills have all the features of the grossest quackery. The prescriptions of our political doctors, so far from reaching the sources of the disorder, would, if applied, aggravate it. They seem particularly charmed with the project of issuing treasury notes, as if this would not be substituting paper for paper, and postponing to a still more distant day the restoration of our commercial affairs to a more healthy state. The scarcity of a circulating medium to all who have been straining their credit, must have been anticipated, and the re-action of distress follows as naturally and necessarily from such a system, as debility in the animal system from over excitement.

We have choked the channel of circulation with paper, and we must relieve it. We must return to a free exchange of bank notes for specie, or we shall always be encumbered with an excess of the former, and continue our staple products at too high a price for exportation.

Let us suppose now an emission of treasury notes; what can prevent an increase of prices. Let us suppose they are issued to those only who can give the very best security for payment, what can prevent their depreciation, when not exchanged for specie. What can endure them with a property that never yet belonged, and never can belong, to any species of irredeemable paper money. Let us reject all such nostrums, and return to that salutary system of currency, from which alone steadiness and security in commerce can be expected.

We may rest assured, that we shall be obliged to retrace our steps sooner or later. What can entitle us to the privilege of sustaining the prices of our staple products higher than similar products elsewhere, allowing for the difference of quality? Who will purchase of us at these relatively higher prices? Will not our foreign trade be entirely arrested, if such a system is persisted in?

The treasury of the United States will be assailed by popular clamor to devise some plan of relief as the next session of congress approaches; but legislative interference will only aggravate the disorder. There is but one mode of relief, and that is the rigid enforcement of specie payments. Much may be expected from the state legislatures, in this view, if their members are firm and independent enough to do their duty, and sufficiently enlightened to perceive in what that duty consists. We expect to hear of the agitation of the most pernicious projects within those assemblies, but we rely on the intelligence of the more considerate to resist and prevent their adoption. May we never hear of any of them suspending the course of justice in cases of contract for debt. Let us keep ourselves free from this blemish. The times call for *forbearance*, but they also call for *firmness*.

LATE DELIBERATIONS of the CABINET.

A variety of conjectures are now afloat, as to the tenor of the late dispatches transmitted by our Government, in answer to the receipt of our Minister's recent communication from Madrid. We understand, however, that no difficulties occurred in the deliberations of the Cabinet as to the course which remained to be pursued; that it was the opinion of the executive not to sanction any evasion or fraud that may be attempted to be imposed under the provisions of this Treaty by certain grantees, who, clandestinely oppose strong impediments to its ratification: and who, it is said, have not scrupled to employ the most fraudulent means within their power, by the fabrication of dates, and instruments to get their claims embraced within the period limited. This piece of chicanery, it is understood, to be the determination of government to resist; that positive instructions on this head have been transmitted to our minister at Madrid; and though the whole amount of these claims is reported not to exceed \$200,000, and which might be bought up for a much less sum—a mere fraction, nationally speaking; yet such is the straightforward policy of our executive, and the integrity of its intentions, that even this paltry sum, will not be granted to bribe the interests or good will of the courtiers or favourites of Ferdinand.

That this is not a Machiavalian course is obvious, when serious impediments could be so easily removed by the application of a little money; but then it comports more with the dignity and interest of a nation, that disdains to stoop to the practice of political quackery by administering pecuniary gratification, at the expense of integrity and fair dealing. By the spirit of the treaty, and its faithful execution on our part, we are willing to stand or fall. We now despair of its ratification within the time limited by its provisions; & the fulfilment of this condition is indispensable to make it binding on both parties.

We think it highly probable that the recent instructions of our executive, do not essentially differ from what has been heretofore transmitted; and it is also not improbable that Spain may have proposed some new arrangement to get rid of the importunities of her disappointed grantees; but what the fate of such a proposition may have been, under the present disturbed state of the negotiation, is impossible to anticipate.

Sanguine expectations are entertained that the *COLUMBUS*, 74, now finishing at the Navy Yard in this city, will be completed and ready for sea, before the winter sets in.

Official Notices, &c.—Mr. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, Secretary of State, and family, left the seat of government on the 24th inst. on a visit to his venerable father, in Massachusetts.

The U. S. ship *Hornet*, Capt. Read, sailed from New-York, on Tuesday, the 24th inst. with dispatches for Cadiz.

Com. PENNY, and the U. S. squadron under his command, were, on the 13th of July last, in the *Oronoko*, and expected shortly to shape their course across the Caribbean sea to St. Thomas, one of the Virgin islands.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AUG 26th, 1819.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT.

Col. *Nathan Towson*, Paymaster General of the Army of the United States, vice Robert Brent, resigned.

James R. Pringle, of South Carolina, Collector of the Customs for the District of Charleston, S. C.

Henry C. Neale, Register of Wills for the County of Washington, in the District of Columbia, vice James H. Blake, deceased.

Joshua Dodge, of Massachusetts, Consul of the U. States, for the port of Marseilles.

Michael Hogan, of New-York, Commercial agent at the Havana.

George M. Bibb, of Kentucky, Attorney of the United States for the Kentucky District.

Benjamin Reeder, of Virginia, Marshal for the District west of the Alleghany Mountain in the state of Virginia.

CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION IN TENNESSEE.

Mr. FRANCIS JONES, a member of the last Congress, is re-elected for the 3d district.

Col. ALLEN is elected in the 4th district.

Col. CANNON is elected for the 5th district.

Gov. M'NIX is said to be re-elected Governor of the State of Tennessee.

THE LATE DUELS.—It is really astonishing that notwithstanding popular sentiment is every day gaining ground against dueling, that this practice should become more prevalent in this district. Within this month past no less than four different duels have been fought near this city, and principally by very young men. For certain reasons we have omitted to publish particulars of these meetings; and would not now mention the fact, were it not for the concern we feel in the death of a young gentleman, Mr. G. W. Clopper, a nephew of Major Milier, of the Marine Corps, who fell in a duel fought with a lieutenant of Marines, near this city, on the *Twenty-fourth* instant. The quarrel which terminated so fatally, it is said, originated only in a trifling and accidental dispute.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATHS

In New-York, for the week ending on the 14th of Aug. were 111; 25 of whom died of dysentery, and 5 of fever are reported.

In Baltimore, for the week ending Monday Aug. 16, were 78; 18 cases of fever are noted, and 5 of dysentery.

In Boston, for the week ending Aug. 14, were 28; 8 cases of whom are noted as the result of various fevers.

In Charleston, from the 1st to the 8th of Aug. were 28; amongst whom were 7 cases of fever.

POETRY.

The following sweet and touching lines were written by the Hon. St. George Tucker, of Virginia, on being solicited to know why he had ceased to court the inspiration of the Poetic Muse.

Days of my youth! ye have glided away;
Hairs of my youth! ye are frosted and grey;
Eyes of my youth! your keen sight is no more;
Cheeks of my youth! ye are furrowed all o'er;
Strength of my youth! all your vigor is gone;
Thoughts of my youth! your gay visions are flown
Days of my youth! I wish not your recall;
Hairs of my youth! I'm content you should fall;
Eyes of my youth! ye much evil have seen;
Cheeks of my youth! bathed in tears ye have been;
Strength of my youth! why lament your decay?
Thoughts of my youth! you have led me astray.

Days of my age! ye will shortly be past;
Pains of my age! yet awhile ye can last;
Joys of my age! in true wisdom delight;
Eyes of my age! be religion your light;
Thoughts of my age! dread ye not the cold sod;
Hopes of my age! be ye fix'd on your God!

TO THE SEA-SERPENT.

(From the Boston Patriot.)

Hail! mighty monarch of the deep!

Leviathan of Job;

Thy train can through old ocean sweep,
And circumscribe the globe.

You, and the Comet, look alike,

And visit us together;

And should you both upon us strike,
There'd be a change of weather.

Long hast thou gambol'd round the coast

Of Massachusetts's bay;

But no commission dost thou boast,
And yet won't go away.

If any thing on shore you wish,

Among our civil band;

You'll fare as well as any fish;—
We long to see you land.

You'll have more compliments on shore;

Than you at present know;

As many folks, and likely, more
Than visited Monroe

We'll all survey your scaly shield,

From crippled age to youth;

Our southern brethren, too, will yield,
And own we tell the truth.

P. S.—Now, Mr. Serpent, be so kind,

Before you leave our sea,

As to divulge your secret mind,
And tell us who you be.

POSTSCRIPT.—A document from Baltimore of this day's date (the 28th) signed, by order of the Board of Health, "P. Reigart" confirms the existence of the Yellow Fever in that city. Fifty cases are mentioned, one fifth of which have proved fatal.

A sensible letter, in the *Norfolk Herald*, of the 25th inst. asserts, that neither Mr. Forsyth, nor Mr. Russell, diplomatists, expect the ratification of the treaty; and that our squadron was kept in the offing off Cadiz, to keep the Dons in mind of our naval importance. A good hint, if broad enough.

The President of the U. States, with his family, left the city this day, on a visit to his farm in Virginia.